



**PUBLIC
LANDS / WATER
ACCESS
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Post Office Box 2 ■ Ramsay, Montana 59748-0002

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 4.12.07
HB HJR 58

House Fish and Game Committee - Joint Resolution
L.C. 2576 *H-J.R. - 58*

I am Tony Schoonen from Ramsay representing Public Lands/Water Access Association, The Montana Coalition for Stream Access, and the Skyline Sportsmen's Association. Our groups are totally opposed to Rep. Milburn's Resolution because it weakens the present Stream Access Law as well as negating the public's right to access streams from county bridges within required rights of way.

This resolution does nothing to solve the ongoing disputes and lawsuits but only delays what SB 78 would have done as a compromise bill. If a committee is formed, it will be stacked with the "right" people so that a favorable outcome will be guaranteed to wealthy stream side landowners. A study group would create another unnecessary layer of bureaucracy and a waste of tax dollars since there is no fiscal note with this resolution, taxpayers will not even know how much they will have to pay.

The best solution is to revive S.B.78 or pass H.B.426 with amendments and pass it on to the Governor.

Please vote no on this worthless resolution.

Sincerely,

Tony Schoonen
Director